

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

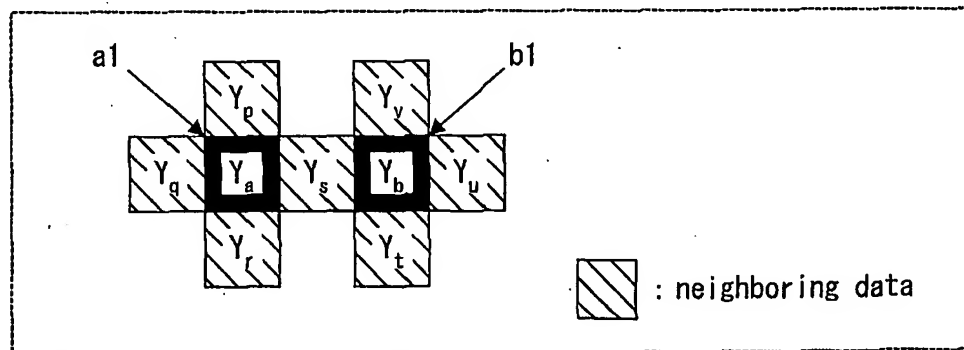
(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau(43) International Publication Date
20 April 2006 (20.04.2006)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2006/041145 A1

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: **H04N 1/32, G06T 1/00**
- (21) International Application Number:
PCT/JP2005/018912
- (22) International Filing Date: 7 October 2005 (07.10.2005)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:
2004-301147 15 October 2004 (15.10.2004) JP
- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): MAT-SUSHITA ELECTRIC INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD. [JP/JP]; 1006, Oaza Kadoma, Kadoma-Shi, Osaka, 5718501 (JP).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): NORIDOMI, Kenichi [JP/JP]. INOUE, Hisashi [JP/JP]. EJIMA, Masataka [JP/JP].
- (74) Agent: HIRANO, Kazuyuki; Hirano Patent Office, 1-23-203, Tenjin 4-Chome, Chuo-Ku, Fukuoka-Shi, Fukuoka 8100001 (JP).
- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, LY, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- Published:
— with international search report
- For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: INFORMATION-DETECTING APPARATUS AND METHOD



(57) Abstract: An information-detecting apparatus (1) including a receiving unit (3) operable to receive digital data (2) that includes several pieces of element data, in which a change amount is imparted to a value of each of first and second element data among the several pieces of element data, a first selecting unit (4) operable to select, as target data (6), a data set that includes the first and second element data, a second selecting unit (5) operable to select, as neighboring data (7), element data in proximity to each of the first and second element data, a calculating unit (8) operable to calculate, based on both of the target data (6) and the neighboring data (7), the change amount imparted to each of the first and second element data, and a detecting unit (10) operable to detect the additional information in accordance with the change amount.